

GardenNOTES



NORTHWEST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

SUMMER 2012

THE BLOEDEL RESERVE: QUIETLY MAGNIFICENT

STACIE CROOKS AND SUE NEVLER

A "place where people find refreshment and tranquility in the presence of natural beauty." ~ Prentice Bloedel

THIS WAS PRENTICE BLOEDEL'S vision for the Bloedel Reserve in 1974 when he and his wife, Virginia, gifted their Bainbridge Island property of 35 years to be enjoyed by the public in perpetuity. Through changing garden fads this 150-acre island beauty not only stands the test of time, it has a claim to being one of the premier gardens in the West, and has been cited as one of the top public gardens in the country. If you've never been to these protected Northwest forests and gardens, a visit is in order.

From a prominent family timber business in the Pacific Northwest, Prentice Bloedel recognized the necessity of gauging growth and health of forests, and was an early leader in sustainable conservation of Northwest forests. His regular walks to observe the newly leafed out maples, find a rare trillium, or hear the songbirds in the trees or perhaps spot an eagle soaring overhead gave him a sense of relaxation, as well as purpose, in seeing what needed to be done to conserve and enhance a large property. This habit of strolling and observing the garden remains relevant today.

As Prentice Bloedel wished, the Reserve presents a series of experiences



The Bloedel Reserve captures a peaceful mood (David Perry)

that alternatively thrill and calm. The experience starts through open rolling pastures, past original sheep barns, then the route narrows, passing over the trestle bridge and threading through stately old Douglas-fir, western red cedar, and hemlock forest. The Bloedels were guided by existing land contours and natural elements of the property. The Bird Marsh, Meadow, Moss Garden, and Rhododendron Glen showcase the pleasure of experiencing the subtle juxtaposition of wild uncultivated areas with designed gardens. Over the years,

the Bloedels consulted with many noted designers: Thomas Church, Richard Haag, Fujitaro Kubota, and others, shaping and enhancing the grounds with their advice. They then added the residence plantings, the Japanese Garden, and the Stone Garden, which show a polished design aspect. The history of the garden has been exquisitely documented in print and photographs, but it truly shines best when experienced in person.

The divide between natural and designed space is understated. A path ►

THE BLOEDEL RESERVE: QUIETLY MAGNIFICENT . . . continued from page 1



Birches line a pathway at The Bloedel Reserve (David Perry)

wanders through two acres of serene Moss Garden, one of the largest in the United States, with mosses carpeting the forest floor, enhanced by a stream, ferns, huckleberries, stumps, and stones. A bark trail leads through a corner opening of a high yew hedge, enclosing the surprise of the Reflection Pool, one of the most romantic 19th century features of the garden. You are compelled to pause and gaze at this linear beauty within the forest. Beyond the pond is the French Country style Bloedel residence overlooking Puget Sound waters. This is one of few gardens open to the public located on the waterfront offering a view of the Cascade Mountains. Nestled deep in the Re-



Lysichiton americanum (skunk cabbage)
(David Perry)

serve grounds, a Japanese guest house and Japanese Garden offer another opportunity for quiet contemplation. This expansive landscape and its architecturally distinctive

structures complement one another in elegant harmony.

The Reserve's strategic plan places priority on the landscape. The mission is to manage and improve the physical features that make this garden unique. Following Prentice Bloedel's original vision there are ambitious plans to add more woodland trails and paths, exposing new vistas. The skilled Reserve staff handles these conservation duties with the experienced direction of new executive director Ed Moydell and a dynamic, involved Board of Trustees.

There is an abundance of activity throughout the year in this tranquil garden. Events are diverse at the Reserve: concerts, classes, tours, and lectures fill the calendar through the four seasons. The superb collection of plants offered by local growers at the annual plant sale is another exciting reason to visit this magnificent space. This spring the program focus is on the healing and therapeutic properties of gardens, in keeping with the Bloedel family's belief in the beneficial interactions between people and nature.

Visitors walk through the meandering two miles of woodland trails contemplating the quiet of the majestic, old forest. Many pause to photograph the former Bloedel family residence, investigate the horticultural library of 1,400 volumes, and linger over museum displays and photographs within the residence, absorbing the ambiance of an earlier era. In the course of a walk, visitors will see renovation of the landscape around the waterfall, restoration work in the Japanese guest house, and progress on several additional newly funded projects.

No reservations are needed to visit the Reserve. Maps and booklets for self-guided walks are available. Docent-lead tours for all ages, interests, and abilities can be arranged with advance notice.

The 25th anniversary of the Reserve's inception as a public garden will be celebrated in 2013 with some very special events. Visit the website (see box below) for more information and experience the excitement in conserving this horticultural beauty. 🌿

Stacie Crooks and Sue Nevler are NHS members and also serve as trustees on The Bloedel Reserve board.

THE BLOEDEL RESERVE

Summer Hours (June–August)

Tuesday & Wednesday: 10:00 am–4:00 pm

Thursday–Sunday: 10:00 am–7:00 pm

www.bloedelreserve.org

7571 Northeast Dolphin Drive

Bainbridge Island, Washington 98110-1097

206-842-7631

THE POLLINATOR PATHWAY

ANN LEVASSEUR

AS A MEMBER OF the NHS Grants Committee last year, I was totally captured by a grant application from The Pollinator Pathway. What an interesting concept; we have to fund this!

A few years ago when evidence of bee Colony Collapse Disorder surfaced, Sarah Bergmann, project director for The Pollinator Pathway, decided to do something about it. It wasn't just the bees, however, that were her concern.

What about other pollinators? What about the pollinators specific to native plants? How does this affect the ecosystem, humans, and our food supply? Doesn't this occur right here in our urban environment? Where in Seattle could we create an environment to attract pollinators?

In 2008, Bergmann and her committee received a grant from the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods to establish an area enticing to pollinators in the middle of Seattle. Ciscoe Morris's designed gardens at Seattle University had attracted Bergmann's attention and were instrumental in deciding on a location. The pathway starts at Seattle University on 12th Avenue and stretches for a mile along Columbia Street to 29th Avenue where it ends at Nora's Woods, a native plants park. The neighborhood parking strips are being replaced with pollinator-friendly gardens of mostly native plants. To date, 12 gardens have been planted. The \$2,500 grant from NHS will fund another garden. The goal is to plant the entire length of the pathway.

The process for establishing the gardens involves property owners and the willing efforts of many volunteers. Once a new site on the corridor is established for a garden the process begins. The calendar for the new garden going in this year



Volunteers planting a new garden (The Pollinator Pathway)

started with a work party in May. A layer of cardboard was put down then covered with mulch. It lies fallow for six months. In June/July the design is developed and plants are ordered. Planting will be done in September 2012. Follow up maintenance is performed during the next six months, which primarily involves watering the garden. While homeowners are responsible for the gardens once planted, the project also helps out by

matching gardens with volunteer garden adopters. "Adoption" of a garden for maintenance generally involves an eight month commitment. Should you want to adopt a garden, you can contact Sarah at The Pollinator Pathway website located at www.pollinatorpathway.com.

There is much to be learned from this project about what we plant in our own gardens to attract the pollinators, which in turn attract birds and other wildlife. To learn more about The Pollinator Pathway, visit their attractive website, and see garden designs, plant lists, photos of the gardens, and a map of the area and pathway. Better yet, take a walk. You can start on 12th Avenue at Seattle University (where there are several convenient coffee shops). Head east on Columbia Street and start looking for garden parking strips. When you reach 29th Avenue, be sure to stop and wander through Nora's Woods. It's a surprising feature in this urban neighborhood. On your return walk you can contemplate how you will attract those pollinators to your garden. And, a walk through the gardens at Seattle University will be a fine ending to a pleasant urban stroll. 🌱

Ann LeVasseur is a former NHS board member.

~ EIGHTH ANNUAL MEET THE BOARD TOUR ~

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, NOON TO 5:00 PM

NHS AIMS TO PLEASE and does so with an amazing group of gardens for this year's Meet the Board Tour on **Sunday, August 19 from noon to 5:00 pm**. From Lake Union to Discovery Park and up to North Beach, five special gardens make the eighth annual tour a day not to be missed. This **free** afternoon event is an opportunity to bring your friends and show them what NHS offers its members. Chat with board members, admire the gardens of talented gardeners, and take away a reminder of the many ways our gardens enhance our lives. Bring more than your friends: bring your ideas, feedback, and thoughts to share with us. Help us continue to grow NHS into the best plant organization in the Pacific Northwest.

Please register on the sign-in sheet at each garden. Enjoy this exclusive tour only for NHS members and their friends.



CARLSON GARDEN
HAVEN ILLUSTRATED
3002 34TH AVE. W
SEATTLE, WA 98199

HOSTS: JOSEPH ABKEN AND DANIEL MOUNT

A PERFECT STORM OF DESIGN expertise, ecological passion, and a sense of place have brought the Carlson Garden into the limelight. From the blank slate days of 2002 to the full house remodel in 2011, this garden has incorporated the hottest ideas in urban planning: compost fence, chickens, rabbits, doves, storm water management, salvaged materials, and low maintenance plants. The focus for this garden shows what a landscape design and color can do to add fun and whimsy to a modest house. Jennifer Carlson's professional skills turn very common and hardy plants into interesting combinations such as a dwarf golden threadleaf cypress flanked by purple barberry and

coral bells. Jennifer's mission is making sustainable gardening approachable and successful for all of us. She carries this philosophy into her home as well, claiming "salvage" as her middle name. Jennifer has the talent to handle this evolution and the willingness to share it with NHS members. She aims to make gardening approachable, affordable, and successful to everyone. Bring a notebook; this is a garden to learn from.



COLEMAN GARDEN
2018 NOB HILL AVE. N
SEATTLE, WA 98109

HOSTS: HOLLY ZIP AND EMILY DEXTER

THIS SEATTLE GARDEN has curb appeal with all the bells and whistles of fairy turrets, "Painted Ladies," and plant lust gone wild. The Coleman garden has been developed under the guidance of Brian Coleman with the tender, loving help of the Withey Price design team, and the well-versed aid of Riz Reyes into a delicious compendium of style, combinations, and fearless planting. The 1900s Craftsman house has been transformed into a high-style Victorian Grande Dame with a garden to match. The narrow entrance is demarcated by two variegated English holly trees patiently pruned into conical accents: a hint of the treasures within. Color plays a strong role. Plants complement the fall color palette of the house: deep green, burgundy, black, copper, and gold. Summer is prime time for this garden that is planted in vibrant swathes of color. Hybrid, sun-tolerant cultivars of coleus in a rainbow of burgundy, chartreuse, and copper can be seen along with dark-leaved dahlias with their bronze leaves and pale ochre and orange flowers. From fancy-leaved *Pelargonium* to colorful coleus, each window box and border sings in perfect harmony with Victorian ornaments and creative whimsy. Come be inspired by the use of color and materials woven into a magical landscape.



FULLER GARDEN
8525 11TH AVE. NW
SEATTLE, WA 98105

**HOSTS: MEGHAN FULLER, CHUCK OGBURN,
AND MARIE WEILER**

HARD WORK DRIVEN BY PASSIONATE gardening led to NHS board member Meghan Fuller's extensive garden renovation. When Meghan and her husband purchased their home in 2003, their small urban yard consisted of an aging lawn, a large, dilapidated shed surrounded by concrete, chain link fencing, and declining shrubs. Eight years later, after much hard work and passionate gardening, the space is an eclectic, enthusiastic mix of perennials, grasses, and shrubs, including some hard-to-find collector plants all linked by gravel paths. The front yard includes an entry garden with an informal seating area surrounded by an open cedar fence, topped with a grape- and hop-covered arbor. The back yard features a 15-foot fig tree, apple tree, covered seating area, and two additional small seating areas surrounded by planting beds. Clever design along the narrow south side of the house uses raised beds for edibles. Tucked throughout the garden are bursts of color and texture heralding Meghan's background in landscape design. This is a garden of edibles and perennials that will delight us all.

MASSONG/BUTLER GARDEN
470 MCGRAW ST.
SEATTLE, WA 98109

HOSTS: JUDY MASSONG AND SUE GOETZ

PERCHED ON QUEEN ANNE HILL, this phoenix has arisen from mud to grass to breathtaking terraces cascading down the hill. The effort to make this garden, from a novice gardener, boggles the mind and speaks to the power of learning. With the help of Carolyn Temple and information gleaned at NHS meetings, board member Judy Massong has created a paradise. Experimenting since 1996, the garden has undergone many iterations by man and nature. The yard, like the house and its owners, is eccentric and eclectic. Viewed primarily as a



place to entertain, the space connects Judy to her neighbors, friends, and the world of flowers she has loved since childhood. Peppered throughout the garden terraces are works of art in glass, metal, and ceramic highlighting the blue-green hostas and lime-green Japanese maples.

TUCKER GARDEN
802 NW 116TH ST.
SEATTLE, WA 98177

HOSTS: DEBORAH HEG AND RAY LARSON

SOPHISTICATED LANDSCAPING LEVERAGED against the borrowed view of Carkeek Park gives the Tucker garden a sense of place on the land. A long sought-after estate feeling can be found in this Seattle garden. The stone walls, terraces, and façade pieces from the Seattle Music Hall bring a sense of antiquity and permanence to the garden. Remember zonal denial? The Tucker garden shows us how to create homes for *Rhodocoma capensis* (Cape restio) and three types of phlomis, salvia, and euphorbia. A recent garden expansion enlarged the herbaceous borders and allowed space for a conservatory and fish pond. Shelagh has leveraged a site gardened since the 1940s into a quiet, spacious landscape accented by cozy seating areas, stone benches, and garden rooms separated by an arched garden gate. 🌿



VOLUNTEER PROFILE: CHUCK OGBURN

LOIS WILLMAN

CHUCK OGBURN COULD BE a poster child for why *Garden Notes* highlights volunteers. First, NHS wants to personally acknowledge individual members who contribute time and effort to fulfill our organization's mission and purpose, and secondly, to publicly bring attention to the countless members who work behind the scenes to make events happen. So although you may not readily recognize Chuck, he has been an invaluable volunteer for many NHS events over the past few years.

If I had to choose one word which characterizes Chuck, it would be STABILITY. In a day where people are mobile and are known for changing careers, changing addresses, and changing spouses, Chuck stands out as an oddity to modern convention. Who else can claim to have had only two jobs in their lifetime: one a summer job he worked during college and the second a 32-year stint with the University of Washington. Also, who has lived in the same house and has been married to the same woman for 40 years?

Chuck is a UW grad where he says he "majored in botany for fun and micro-



*Chuck Ogburn in his garden
(Sharon Ogburn)*

biology for a potential job." It must have worked as he retired ten years ago as a researcher in the pathology department. With free time available he began to "reclaim the overgrown garden." That brought him to NHS where he attended classes, and, of course, became an avid

shopper at our plant sales. He eventually began volunteering at plant sales in the hopes of vicariously enjoying the plants via talking to vendors, customers, and volunteers without having to buy too many. To our delight he said, "It didn't work; I bought more!"

Anita Dunn, chair of the Spring Plant Sale, couldn't find enough words to describe Chuck. "He has foresight and just knows what to do without being told. He can shift gears quickly, he is tireless, he shows up early, and is the last to leave. He is just a 'steady-eddy.'"

Today, Chuck serves on the NHS Board of Directors where he is chair of the Finance Committee and is a member of the Plant Sale Committee. When attending our lecture series at CUH, you will also find him assisting Ray Larson with the audio-visual equipment. We are hoping Chuck's track record of "stick-to-itiveness" continues, and that he will maintain a connection with NHS for years to come. 🌱

Lois Willman is a former NHS board member.

~ WELCOME NEW MEMBERS ~

Michelle Albert

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Joelle & Andy Blair

Gay Burton

Mary Cairns

Nancy Chase

Meta Chessin

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Carrie Gaasland

Dianne Gaughan

Nancy Hansen

Kit Kelly

Molly Malecki

Karen Miller

Preston Pew

Tom Reeser

Candace Richards

Toni Smith

Lasha Steinweg

Jennifer Stucker

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Anne Wikstrom

Sharon Yonashiro

Joan Younkin

MILLER LIBRARY NEWS

BRIAN THOMPSON



I'M ENVIOUS OF THOSE going on the upcoming NHS tour to Chicago and Wisconsin—you'll be seeing some great gardens! While I won't be joining you, I have explored the Miller Library for books that feature gardens on the itinerary.

We have several books co-authored by Piet Oudolf, the planting designer of the Lurie Garden in Chicago. The most recent, *Landscapes in Landscapes* (2010), written with Noël Kingsbury, includes detailed planting designs of Lurie. The authors' earlier *Planting Design: Gardens in Time and Space* (2005) presents some of the practicalities of translating the Lurie designs to a smaller, home garden scale.

To understand the bones of Lurie better, take a look at *Moving Horizons* (Jane Amidon, 2005) featuring the work of lead Lurie designer, Kathryn Gustafson. While the plantings thrill us gardeners, most people are drawn by places to stroll, spaces to sit, and the artificial stream to dangle feet. This book also features several Seattle area examples by this local megastar of landscape architecture.

The Chicago Botanic Garden (CBG) is profiled in *A Garden for All Seasons* (Chicago Horticultural Society, 1990). Although an older title, this is still a good introduction to the garden as it is today. *Gardens of the Heartland* (Laura Martin, 1996) includes an extended chapter on CBG, and will also direct you to other fine gardens in the region if your travel plans allow.

Turning to Wisconsin, the Miller Library has two books on the landscape designs of Frank Lloyd Wright: *The Gardens of Frank Lloyd Wright* (Derek Fell, 2009) and *Wrightscapes* (Aguar and Aguar, 2002). Both feature the gardens at Taliesin, where (quoting Fell), "Every tree, every mirror of water, every flight of steps, the orchards, vineyards, agricultural fields and hedgerows are so precisely placed..."

Finally, *Great Gardens of America* (Tim Richardson, 2009) is a selective review of 25 of our country's finest gardens, including the Lurie Garden, "one of the most exciting examples of cutting-edge horticulture in the world..." And, for when you return home, you can also read the chapters on the Bloedel Reserve (see Stacie Crooks's fine article) and Dan Hinkley's Windcliff. 🌿

Brian Thompson is the manager and curator of horticultural literature for the Elisabeth C. Miller Library.

~ THANKS TO OUR 2012 PATRONS ~

The Wednesday Evening Lecture Series would not be possible without the tremendous support of our patrons. Their generosity helps NHS provide a world-class educational program for Northwest gardeners. Thank you, patrons!

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THE STORY OF PLANTS: STOCK

DANIEL MOUNT

ON NEW YEAR'S EVE I was lunching with my friend, the memoirist Theo Nestor. She was in rare form, playfully prognosticating for the group she assembled at her home. Standing on the precipice of 2011, readying for the plunge into the gaping portentous maw of 2012, we were all eager for sooth-saying: real or faked. Theo's predictions sounded like newspaper horoscopes: one friend was to find love in an unusual place; my partner Michael was to have a job change in March. When it came to my prediction she paused long, thought hard, "I see pink stock," she said, "The flower, not anything you can buy on Wall Street."

I had hoped for wealth, fame, adventure. What I got was stock, that addendum to cheap supermarket bouquets lending fragrance to bunches of Asiatic lilies, baby's breath, and leather leaf fern. Why, it's practically the iceberg lettuce of the flower world. And may have you asking, "Why is he writing about stock?" Well, I grow stock. Not in voluminous rows for the cut flower trade but in a little pot on my deck. It delights me, though most gardeners I know grimace at the mention of its name.

Maybe it is this stubby little name, "stock" shortened from "stock gillyflower" which has turned people off to this Mediterranean perennial. There are many gillyflowers: clove gillyflowers or carnations (*Dianthus caryophyllus*), Queen's gillyflower (*Hesperis matronalis*), and wall gillyflower (*Erysimum cheiri*). All are grown for their lovely clove-like fragrance. Actually, the name



Matthiola incana cv.

"gillyflower" comes from the French word for clove: *girofle*. In the 16th century the cloves of India were a new and costly spice in the Elizabethan kitchen, so any easily grown flower which mimicked this scent was highly prized. Stock, along with the other gillyflowers, became the darlings of the Elizabethan garden which emphasized fragrance (they were unhygienic times) over color.

The supermarket stocks we know today are hybrids of *Matthiola incana*, one of the most adaptable of the 50 species in the genus which ranges throughout the western Mediterranean Basin and into the mountains of Europe. Sixteenth century stock hybridizers had already

created doubles and a color range which ran from pure white to red. But it was the Victorians who gave us modern stock like the highly fragrant Brompton stock and the quick-growing Ten Weeks stock favored by the floral trade. Though it has a somewhat problematic constitution, stock is still being hybridized and widely grown today.

Where I saw *M. incana* in the wild in Italy it grew to shrub-like proportions feet from the sea, was covered with fragrant flowers, and was accompanied by two other old time garden favorites: dusty miller (*Senecio cineraria*) and alyssum (*Lobularia maritima*). I took this as the clue to growing stock successfully in the Northwest. So I grow it in a pot and tuck it under the eaves with my other exotics, like agaves, during our wet winters, and lose

it regularly. Yet I keep planting stock, and gave up on "hardy" agaves.

Maybe the New Year's prediction of my memoirist friend was a prompt to look back this year instead of forward. Certainly, struck by nostalgia for my father's '60s supper club, I'll have a wedge of iceberg lettuce smothered in Thousand Island dressing now and again. Is it the workings of nostalgia that makes me plant stock? Nostalgia for an era I didn't even garden in? Aren't cloves cheap enough now? Stock will never be a Great Plant Pick, yet I still grow it, even if it makes me nerdier than the nerdiest of the plant nerds. 🌱

Read more of Daniel's reflections on plants and gardens at www.mountgardens.com.

OUT AND ABOUT THIS SUMMER WITH NHS TOURS

JACKIE WHITE

JOIN BAINBRIDGE ISLAND RESIDENT and designer **Deborah Cheadle** on **July 26** for a tour of four distinctive gardens, including her own two-acre garden that achieves both intimacy and a park-like scale and the new garden of artists **Little and Lewis**. The Little and Lewis garden is just as artful as their previous one, but it is smaller and more intimate and includes a fabulous chicken coop. We will also visit two large, enchanting woodland gardens, one with a koi pond and Little and Lewis sculpture and one with an incredible display of rare perennials including a collection of *Arisema*.

Enjoy a slice of urban gardens in the Tacoma area on **August 9** with **Jackie White** and designer **Sue Goetz**. The tour will include urban public and private garden treasures. This is a unique opportunity to learn how small ordinary garden lots can be transformed into mini garden havens. Sue will describe some of her design techniques as we visit each of the South Sound gardens. Sue's new studio and garden shop, **The Urban**

Gardener, will also be a stop on the tour. In addition, we will have an opportunity to visit a few public gardens guided by their gardeners or docents. At the end of the day you may want to stop by the renowned **Jungle Fever Exotics Nursery** to take a few of their unusual plant specimens home.

The popular "**Meet the Designer**" series of tours will be back this summer. The first designer will be **Virginia Hand** on **August 3** with a tour of her own garden and studio plus other projects on Queen Anne.

Also in the planning stage for later this summer is a Sammamish Valley farm tour, including a visit with **Katherine Anderson** and the growing fields of **Marigold & Mint**, her unique store at Melrose Market on Capitol Hill. See page 10 or go to www.northwesthort.org for more information. 🌱

Jackie White is an NHS board member and is also a member of the Tours Committee.

PLANT NERD NIGHT EXTRAVAGANZA!

NITA-JO ROUNTREE

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MADE NHS's Plant Nerd Night a smashing success! We raised over \$12,000 for our education and grant programs. Ciscoe Morris, our engaging and entertaining emcee, Richie Steffen, our expert auctioneer, the 23 member Chorus of the Goddess Flora from Portland, and our six specialty plant vendors who each gave informative and often humorous 10 minute PowerPoint presentations combined to put on a fabulous evening of entertainment—thank you!

Over 400 attendees enjoyed free swag bags, wine, and refreshments.

Corona tools donated over \$4,500 worth of tools for the swag bags and for the silent auction, and Chateau Ste. Michelle donated most of the delicious Chardonnay and Merlot. To both of them and to all the donors of incredible swag bag and silent auction items—thank you!



*Richie Steffen and Ciscoe Morris emcee
Plant Nerd Night (Mary Palmer)*

You can imagine that an event of this magnitude required a crew of first-rate volunteers to set up the silent auction, stuff swag bags, set up the refreshments and wine, take tickets and pass out auction forms, help the plant vendors move in and out, and more. To all of them—thank you!

And of course, this event would not have been possible without our sponsors: Cedar Grove Compost, Proven Winners, Ravenna Gardens, and Wells Medina Nursery, and our media sponsors, KING 5 TV and 97.3 KIRO

FM—thank you! See sponsor logos and more info on page 11. See you next year! 🌱

Nita-Jo Rountree and Gillian Mathews were co-chairs of Plant Nerd Night.

NHS BULLETIN BOARD

~ SUMMER CLASSES AND TOURS ~

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM *Great Plant Picks for the Shade Garden with Rick Peterson & Holly Zipp*

Join Rick Peterson, GPP program coordinator and Holly Zipp, head gardener at the Miller Botanical Garden, to learn about the Great Plant Picks award program. They will explore this year's GPP theme, *Made in the Shade*, by taking you on a tour of the garden and discussing their outstanding collection of plants that perform well in shady conditions.

LOCATION: MILLER BOTANICAL GARDEN/SEATTLE

FEE: MEMBERS: \$25.00 NON-MEMBERS: \$35.00 LIMIT: 15

THURSDAY, JULY 26, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM *Bainbridge Island Garden Tour*

Bainbridge Island resident and designer Deborah Cheadle will conduct a tour of four distinctive island gardens, including her own two-acre garden that achieves both intimacy and a park-like scale and the new garden of artists Little and Lewis. You will also visit two large, enchanting woodland gardens: one with a koi pond featuring a Little and Lewis sculpture and one with an incredible display of rare perennials including a collection of *Arisema*. Lunch included.

LOCATION: BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

FEE: MEMBERS: \$50.00 NON-MEMBERS: \$70.00 LIMIT: 35

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM *Meet the Designer with Virginia Hand*

Seattle-based designer Virginia Hand is both a graphic and garden designer. She will show us her Queen Anne projects, including her own garden and studio, and talk about her design philosophy and techniques.

LOCATION: HAND GARDEN/SEATTLE

FEE: MEMBERS: \$35.00 NON-MEMBERS: \$55.00 LIMIT: 18

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM *Tacoma Area Garden Tour*

Join Jackie White and Sue Goetz for a tour of urban public and private garden treasures in the Tacoma area. Sue Goetz, designer and NHS board member, will discuss her design techniques as we visit gardens she has designed. Sue's new studio and garden shop, The Urban Garden Company, will also be a stop on the tour. Lunch included.

LOCATION: TACOMA

FEE: MEMBERS: \$50.00 NON-MEMBERS: \$70.00 LIMIT: 35

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM *Exploring The 50 Mile Bouquet with Diane Szukovathy and Debra Prinzing*

This is your opportunity to get the inside scoop on the local floral industry. Tour the Seattle Wholesale Growers Market with founder Diane Szukovathy of Jello Mold Farms, and Debra Prinzing, author of *The 50 Mile Bouquet*. This market provides the very best the Pacific Northwest has to offer in cut flowers from over 20 local flower farms, selling directly to professional floral buyers. Diane and Debra will give a floral arranging demonstration.

LOCATION: SEATTLE WHOLESALE GROWERS MARKET

FEE: MEMBERS \$35.00 NON-MEMBERS: \$55.00 LIMIT: 20

~ A SUMMER EVENING *at the* MILLER GARDEN ~

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM *A Summer Evening at the Miller Botanical Garden*

The staff of the Miller Botanical Garden invites you to join them for a special sunset tour and dinner. This is a rare opportunity to enjoy a private evening tour of the garden and to see the Millers' home and relax in the evening glow of the garden. Guests will be treated to a wonderful evening of excellent food prepared by local chef, April James, and wine selected by past NHS president and wine connoisseur, Hans Mandt.

LOCATION: MILLER BOTANICAL GARDEN/SEATTLE

FEE: MEMBERS: \$95.00 NON-MEMBERS: \$125.00 LIMIT: 15

~ 2012 NHS GRANTS OFFERED ~

THE NHS BOARD has made grant funds available for 2012 and is currently accepting grant applications for consideration. The award of 2012 Grants will be made at the 2012 NHS Annual Meeting. Applications must be received by **August 31, 2012**, and should include the following:

- A narrative describing the project and the goals of the project (not to exceed two pages).
- A description of the applicant, i.e., individual, non-profit company or institution, or other. A list of key individuals involved in the project, and directors and officers, if applicable.
- The amount requested and the project budget. The applicant should note whether follow-on funding will be required, whether matching funds or other funding is available, and whether the applicant has received NHS funding in the past.
- A copy of the applicant's annual report (if any) and most recent financial statement.
- The project timeline and schedule. Include the date by which NHS will receive a report on the success of the project and a copy of the completed work, if applicable.
- Name(s) of the person(s) to whom correspondence should be addressed, and who will report on the project to the NHS Grant Committee.

~ SAVE THE DATES! ~

2012 MILLER LECTURE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 7:30 PM *Conserving Plants in a Changing World* *Peter H. Raven, Speaker*

LOCATION: MEANY HALL, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
RESERVATIONS WILL BE TAKEN BEGINNING IN MID-AUGUST.

2012 NHS FALL PLANT SALE Friday, September 14 noon-6:00 PM Saturday, September 15 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

LOCATION: NORTH SEATTLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
9600 COLLEGE WAY N., SEATTLE, WA 98103

FOR RESERVATIONS E-MAIL NWHORT@AOL.COM OR CALL KARIN KRAVITZ AT 206-780-8172



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

RAY LARSON

IT HAS BEEN QUITE THE BUSY SPRING for the Northwest Horticultural Society. The Spring Plant Sale, Symposium, and Plant Nerd Night are now behind us along with another season of lectures, classes, and other events. Happily the weather has been much improved over last year, so the warmer and drier days have provided plenty of opportunities for gardening too. Spring generally builds the mood for the pleasant

summers that await us here in the Pacific Northwest, and unlike last year at least, we have had several nice stretches to get us ready for the dry and sunny days of July, August, and September.

But before looking too far ahead to that triumvirate of months, I'd like to reflect briefly back on the busiest spring I can remember in my time with the Society. The Spring Plant Sale remained a pleasant kick off to the gardening season, and once again **Anita Dunn** and **Deborah Heg** and their respective committees led the way to a successful event. The annual Symposium was another informative and entertaining day with wonderful plants and books available, and I thank **Hans Mandt** for his continued organizational efforts. And Plant Nerd Night was a barely contained frenzy of plants and an amusing extravaganza for all who attended. **Nita-Jo Rountree** and **Gillian Mathews** worked tirelessly to organize it and bring it to its very successful conclusion. Our administrator, **Karin Kravitz**, kept everything running as smoothly as possible with all of these events—as she always does. Of course, none of this would have been possible without a dedicated and energetic group of volunteers, whom I can't thank enough. And we certainly thank all of you, our members and friends, for supporting our efforts. We again raised a substantial amount of money for the Miller Library, grants, and scholarships, all while educating and hopefully entertaining our attendees and participants.

Looking forward, June brings the spring lecture season to a close with Nita-Jo Rountree's talk about hydrangeas, a genus that has really come into its own again in the last few years. We'll also be awarding at least one Miller Scholarship in Horticulture, now in its 25th year. And summer also means plenty of classes and tours—including another exciting lineup for the Meet the Board Tour in August. But most of all, it means plenty of time (or at least daylight and nice weather) for gardening and a chance to put into practice all of those interesting things we've learned together this past year. Enjoy the summer! 🌱

Ray Larson is the president of NHS.

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PLANT NERD NIGHT EXTRAVAGANZA! CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

WITHOUT OUR SPONSORS, NHS would not have been able to make Plant Nerd Night possible. Thank you to:



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Ravenna Gardens: In Seattle's University Village, Ravenna Gardens caters to urban gardeners, offering an abundance of products to inspire gardeners to personalize their outdoor space and creatively bring the outdoors inside.
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RICHIE STEFFEN

Ophiopogon planiscapus 'Nigrescens' and *Sedum oreganum* taken in Stacie Crooks's garden

"What is one to say about June, the time of perfect young summer, the fulfillment of the promise of the earlier months, and with as yet no sign to remind one that its fresh young beauty will ever fade." —Gertrude Jekyll, 1843-1932, garden designer

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